

II. REMARKS

A. Introduction

In this Office Action, claim 1-7, 9-22 and 24-30 are noted as pending, claims 3, 4, 7, 9, 12, 15-22 and 24-30 are allowed, claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 10, 11, 13 and 14 are rejected, and an objection is made to the drawings regarding a feature recited in claim 10.

In this Response, all rejected claims are canceled including claim 10 for which the drawing objection was made, thereby leaving only the allowed claims 3, 4, 7, 9, 12, 15-22 and 24-30 pending.

Applicant requests entry of this Rule 1.116 response because: (a) all rejected claims have been canceled; (b) cancellation of the claims was not earlier presented because Applicant believed in good faith that the cited prior art did not disclose the present invention as previously claimed; and (c) the actions taken in this Response do not require any further search by the Examiner since no features are being added or new issues being raised.

III. CONCLUSION

In light of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that claims 3, 4, 7, 9, 12, 15-22 and 24-30 are now in condition for allowance.


If there are any additional fees associated with this Response, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this Response, the undersigned would appreciate a telephone conference with the Examiner to attend to these matters.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: 11/16/05

By: 
William F. Herbert
Registration No. 31,024

1201 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1500